

1993 NETHERLANDS CHRISTMAS STAMPS

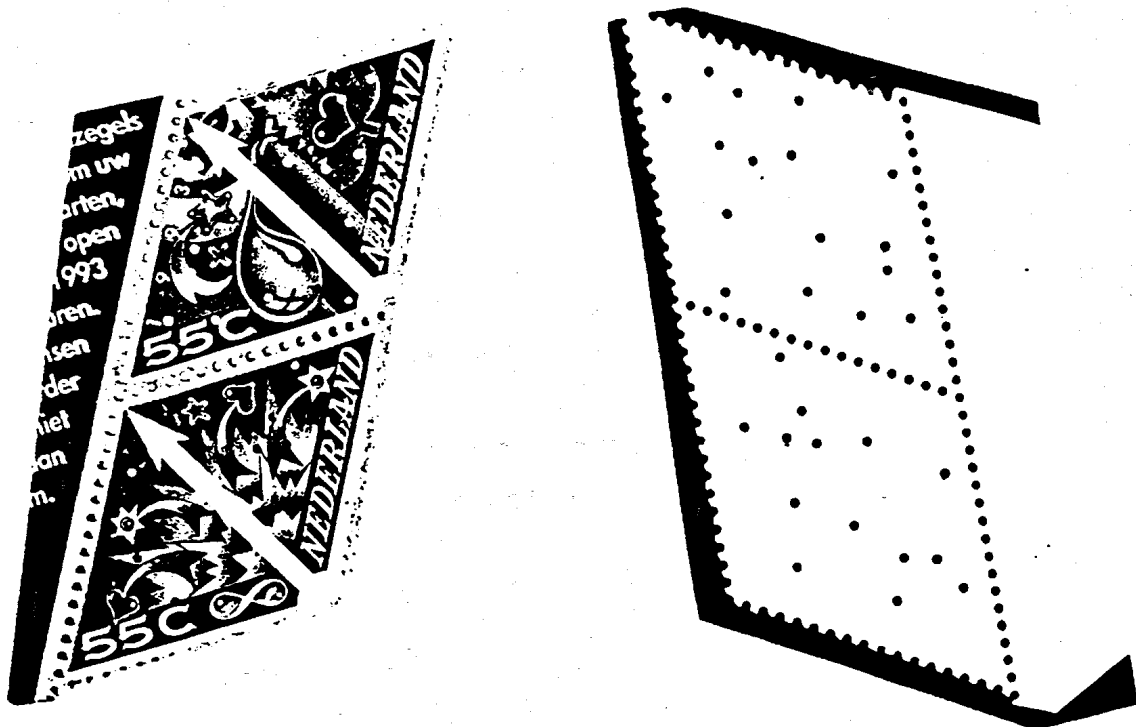
From Dave Hill.

(Ed.- this is one of the contributions which sat in my 'forward file' awaiting an opportunity to publish. Until this Bulletin there has not been space available for 'foreign' perfin articles of two pages. You may recall, a few years ago at the A.G.M. it was decided that GB material took preference over Foreign matters)

G.L.ROBJIN writes from the Netherlands about their 1993 Christmas stamps. Members may have seen these very artistic stamps which have a pattern of perforations all over the diamond shaped stamp as part of the design. (What does this do to the definition of a perfin?)

In the Netherlands half the annual correspondence is written at Christmas time and the Post Office gave a discount of 15 cents off the usual cost of a letter of 70 cents. The stamps were only sold in sheets of 20 (see illustration), 2 different stamp designs on the sheet with a dark border with a pattern of yellow dots which make the numbers '93' in the centre diamond.

About 140 million stamps were sold. They were printed by Enschede and the perforation pattern was done at the same time as the perforations between the stamps. The stamps were designed by a Mr. Swip Stolk and printed on Harrison paper.



The perforation pattern adds a bit of decoration especially if the envelope is made of coloured paper and it is held to the light.

Mr. Robijn adds that he collects perfins of the Netherlands and France and will give other European perfins in exchange.

Write to him at Kon. Julianalaan 12, NL 2274 JK, Voorburg, Netherlands.

